

Message Text

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ACTION OFA-01

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, DA, NL

SUBJECT: FISHERMEN CONFLICT BETWEEN DANISH AND DUTCH

1. THE DANISH PRESS HAS REPORTED SEVERAL ALLEGED INCIDENTS OF FISHING AND GEAR CONFLICTS BETWEEN DUTCH AND DANISH FISHERMEN DURING THE PAST MONTH. IN ONE CASE, A DANISH FISHERMAN ALLEGED THAT A DUTCH BEAM TRAWLER DELIBERATELY RAN THROUGH AND DESTROYED HIS NETS ON THE HIGH SEAS. CLAIMS WERE ALSO MADE THAT DUTCH TRAWLERS WERE FAILING TO HEED THE MARITIME RULES OF THE ROAD.

2. ANOTHER REPORT STATED THAT THE NAVAL OPERATIVE COMMAND IN AARHUS ANNOUNCED THAT ONE OF ITS CORVETTES WAS READY TO SAIL TO PROTECT DANISH FISHING VESSELS IN THE NORTH SEA AGAINST FURTHER INTERVENTION BY DUTCH FISHERMEN. TWO DANISH NAVAL VESSELS ARE, REPORTEDLY, ALREADY PATROLLING THE AREA. DANISH FISHERIES OFFICIALS, HOWEVER, INDICATE THERE IS NO RPT NO SERIOUS DANISH GOVERNMENT CONCERN OVER RECENT DEVELOPMENTS.

3. SUCH INCIDENTS BETWEEN FISHING VESSELS ARE REPORTED BY DANISH FISHERMEN FROM TIME TO TIME,
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MOST FREQUENTLY INVOLVING DUTCH VESSELS. THE

CURRENT ONES FOLLOW THE ARREST AND SEIZURE BY
A DANISH INSPECTION VESSEL OF A DUTCH BEAM
TRAWLER FOR USING ILLEGAL GEAR WITHIN DANISH
WATERS. THE OWNER OF THE DUTCH VESSEL WAS FINED
AND THE GEAR AND CATCH WERE CONFISCATED; THE
COST OF THE FINE AND REPURCHASE OF THE GEAR WAS
IN EXCESS OF \$15,000.

4. UNDER AN EXISTING DANISH-NETHERLANDS AGREEMENT,
A SPECIAL COMMITTEE WILL BE CONVENED SOMETIME LATER
THIS SUMMER TO HEAR CLAIMS BY THE FISHERMEN. THE
COMMITTEE, WHICH WILL INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES FROM
BOTH COUNTRIES, WILL DECIDE WHAT REIMBURSEMENT,
IF ANY, MAY BE DUE ON THE EVIDENCE SUBMITTED FOR
EACH CLAIM.
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